

TAC Meeting Notes
April 12, 2005
6:00 p.m.



Present: Dwight Baker; Dick Burkhart; John Coney; Sandy Paul-Lyle; Holly Plackett; Anirudh Sahni; Claire Schary; Mike Taylor

Excused: Andy Bennett; Hans Brandal; Ray Day, Jr., Dave Elliott; John Jensen

Staff: Bill Bryant, Metro Transit Planner; Barbara de Michele, Community Relations Planner; David Hull, Metro Transit Planner; Paul Lavallee, consultant, IBI; Pat Cleary, Senior Community Relations Planner

Guests: Joan Sells, interim Vashon representative

Mike Taylor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Waterfront Streetcar

Committee members reviewed and edited draft letters authored by John Coney. Sahni moved/Schary seconded that the letters be mailed to Metro General Manager Kevin Desmond and Seattle Art Museum Director Mimi Gates. Passed unanimously. (see attached).

Waterborne Transit Study

Hull and Lavallee presented findings from Task 2 report. Committee members will comment on the report at their May meeting.

Adjournment

Taylor adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

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King County

April 20, 2005

Kevin Desmond, General Manager
King County Metro Transit
201 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104

Dear Mr. Desmond:

Thank you for the excellent presentations by Victor Obeso and Bill Bryant, who outlined the challenges and future possibilities for the Seattle Waterfront Streetcar service at the King County Transit Advisory Committee meetings of March 15 and April 12, 2005.

The consensus of our Advisory Committee, representing Metro Transit ridership throughout King County, is that the Waterfront Streetcar service is vital to the City of Seattle's transportation future and should be kept in operation for as long as possible.

We believe that good public policy decisions will allow both streetcar service and the timely completion of construction on the City waterfront right of way adjacent to the Olympic Sculpture Park.

The Transit Advisory Committee endorses King County Metro Transit's participation in the Trolley Team and urges Metro to help the Team meet its goals in a timely manner. We are supportive of a continued short-line service during the Alaskan Way Viaduct demolition and construction phases.

Metro's policy should be one that enables the transit agency and/or the City to obtain mitigation funding to compensate for the temporary closure of part of the route during Viaduct demolition and construction.

Sincerely,

Mike Taylor, Chairperson
King County Transit Advisory Committee

CC: Councilmember Pete Von Reichbauer, Chair, Regional Transit Committee, King County Council
Councilmember Dwight Pelz, Chair, Transportation Committee, King County Council
Harold S. Taniguchi, Director, Department of Transportation (DOT)
Laurie Brown, Deputy Director, DOT
Ron Posthuma, Assistant Director, DOT
Jim Jacobson, Deputy General Manager, Metro Transit Division, DOT
Victor Obeso, Supervisor, Planning Services, Metro Transit Division

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King County

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Mimi Gates
Director
Seattle Art Museum
100 University Avenue
Seattle, WA 98102-2902

Dear Director Gates:

The King County Transit Advisory Committee, a County appointive body representing Metro Transit ridership throughout King County, received presentations which outlined the challenges and future possibilities for the Seattle Waterfront Streetcar service at our meetings of March 15 and April 12, 2005.

The consensus of our Advisory Committee is that the Waterfront Streetcar service is vital to the City of Seattle's transportation future and should be kept in operation for as long as possible.

We believe that good public policy decisions will allow both streetcar service and the timely completion of construction on the City waterfront right of way adjacent to the Olympic Sculpture Park.

The Transit Advisory Committee is pleased with SAM's participation in the Trolley Team and urges SAM and Metro to help the Team meet it's goals in a timely manner. We are supportive of a continued short-line service during the Alaskan Way Viaduct demolition and construction phases. We feel that streetcar service linking the Central Waterfront to the Olympic Sculpture Park is important to the success of OSP.

Metro riders county-wide recognize the function and the historic importance of the Waterfront Streetcar service and the investment in the uniquely period-oriented right of way features. It is important that Metro Transit and/or the City obtain mitigation funding to compensate for the temporary closure of part of the route during Viaduct demolition and construction.

Sincerely,

Mike Taylor, Chairperson
King County Transit Advisory Committee

CC Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels
 Seattle City Councilmember Richard Conlin
 Councilmember Pete Von Reichbauer, Chair, Regional Transit Committee, King County Council
 Councilmember Dwight Pelz, Chair, Transportation Committee, King County Council
 Harold S. Taniguchi, Director, Department of Transportation (DOT)
 Laurie Brown, Deputy Director, DOT
 Ron Posthuma, Assistant Director, DOT
 Kevin Desmond, General Manager, Metro Transit Division, DOT
 Jim Jacobson, Deputy General Manager, Metro Transit Division, DOT
 Victor Obeso, Supervisor, Planning Services, Metro Transit Division